

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the title to read: --OUTLINE FORMING APPARATUS AND METHOD USING INPUTTED WEIGHT INFORMATION--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 43, 44, 47, 51-55, 58 and 62-64, as follows:

43. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus comprising:

storing means for storing font data which include coordinate information indicating basic positions of [basic] outline points for forming an outline of a pattern having a predetermined weight, and movement information, provided for each of the [basic] outline points individually, for defining a moving direction and a moving amount of each of the [basic] outline points [using] from each of the basic positions [weight information indicative of weight of a pattern as a parameter];

input means for inputting weight information indicating a desired weight of an outline of a pattern to be generated; [and]

moving means for determining a moving direction and a moving amount of each of the outline points from each of the basic positions based on the weight information input by said input means and the movement information, and for moving

~~the outline points in accordance with the determined moving direction and moving amount; and~~

generating means for generating an outline of the pattern [having the weight indicated by the weight information input by said input means, said outline being generated from outline points which are obtained by moving the basic outline points based on said weight information, the coordinate information and the movement information] ~~based on the outline points moved by said moving means.~~

44. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus according to claim 43, wherein said [generating] moving means includes:

judgment means for judging whether or not each of the [basic] outline points has non-zero movement information provided therefor; and

decision means for deciding the positions of outline points for a pattern to be generated by moving each of the [basic] outline points having non-zero movement information provided therefor.

47. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus according to claim 43, wherein the movement information includes position information indicating relative positions of outline points of the pattern having a weight different from the predetermined weight relative to the basic positions

~~indicated by the coordinate information, and path information indicating a moving path of the outline points, in conjunction with change of the weight, between the basic [outline points] positions and the relative positions.~~

51. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus according to claim 47, wherein the position information indicates an allowable amount of movement of each of the [basic] outline points.

52. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the amount of movement of each of the [basic] outline points is restricted based on whether or not an outline containing a moved outline point intersects another outline containing another moved outline point.

53. (Amended) An outline forming apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the amount of movement of each of the outline points is restricted based on whether or not the [basic] outline point emerges from a body frame of the pattern.

54. (Amended) An outline forming method utilizing storing means which stores font data including coordinate information indicating basic positions of [basic] outline points for forming an outline of a pattern having a

~~predetermined weight, and movement information, provided for each of the [basic] outline points individually, for defining a moving direction and a moving amount of each of the [basic] outline points [using weight information indicative of weight of a pattern as a parameter] from each of the basic positions, comprising the steps of:~~

~~inputting weight information indicating a desired weight of an outline of a pattern to be generated; [and]~~

~~determining a moving direction and a moving amount of each of the outline points from each of the basic positions based on the weight information input by said input means and the movement information;~~ F

~~moving the outline points in accordance with the determined moving direction and moving amount; and~~

~~generating an outline of the pattern [having the weight indicated by the weight information input by said input step, said outline being generated from outline points which are obtained by moving the basic outline points based on said weight information, the coordinate information and the movement information] based on the outline points moved in said moving step.~~

55. (Amended) An outline forming method according to claim 54, wherein said [generating] moving step includes:

~~the step of judging whether or not each of the [basic] outline points has non-zero movement information provided therefor; and~~

~~the step of deciding the positions of outline points by moving each of the outline points having non-zero [second] movement information provided therefor~~

~~58. (Amended) An outline forming method according to claim 54, wherein the movement information includes position information indicating relative positions of outline points of the pattern having a weight different from the predetermined weight relative to the basic positions indicated by the coordinate information, and path information indicating a moving path of the outline points, in conjunction with change of the weight, between the basic [outline points] positions and the relative positions.~~

~~62. (Amended) An outline forming method according to claim 58, wherein the position information indicates an allowable amount of movement of each of the [basic] outline points.~~

~~63. (Amended) An outline forming method according to claim 62, wherein the amount of movement of each of the [basic] outline points is restricted based on whether or not~~